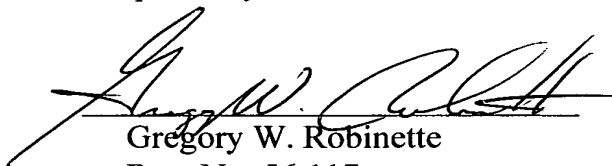


REMARKS

New independent Claim 23 defines the invention as a holder for supporting an article. The holder includes a housing having a support surface that is adapted to support an article thereon. A plurality of leaf members is supported on the housing for movement relative to the support surface. An actuating mechanism is movable relative to the support surface for causing movement of the plurality of leaf members. Thus, the plurality of leaf members can be moved to engage an article supported on the support surface.

The claimed invention is not shown or suggested in any of the art of record. Specifically, the Leopold et al. reference discloses a glass holder 10 that includes a housing 24 that supports a support surface 12 for movement relative thereto. A plurality of leaf members 26 is supported on the housing 24 for movement relative to the housing 24. Such movement of the plurality of leaf members 26 is caused by movement of the support surface 12 relative to the housing 24, such as when a glass is placed thereon. Thus, the Leopold et al. reference does not show or suggest either (1) a plurality of leaf members supported on a housing for movement relative to a support surface or (2) an actuating mechanism movable relative to the support surface for causing movement of the plurality of leaf members, as claimed.

Respectfully submitted,



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